

EMPOWER NEW ENERGY AS

Report of the Local Stakeholder Consultation

held on 18 August 2026

for the registration of:

Voluntary Project Activity (VPA):

"Juddy-Bolema Industries rooftop solar PV plant"

Under the Programme of Activities (PoA):

"Empower Solar Programme of Activities in Nigeria"

Document prepared by Empower New Energy AS

19 August 2026

1. Context and Objective of the Meeting

The Local Stakeholder Consultation (LSC) held on 18 August 2026 is the VPA-level stakeholder consultation for the Juddy-Bolema Industries Rooftop Solar PV Plant Project, being developed by Empower New Energy AS in Nigeria. The consultation was a mandatory participatory process required under the Gold Standard for the Global Goals certification scheme, held prior to the project entering into operation. Note that a separate PoA Design Consultation has been conducted at programme level for the Empower Solar Programme of Activities in Nigeria.

The consultation took place at Juddy-Bolema Ind. Ltd, 33 Umuoji St, Odoakpu, Nkpor, Anambra State, Nigeria, and was attended by 82 participants. Empower New Energy AS was represented in person by Michael Iwu, with Tatiana Cotta participating remotely.

The meeting formed part of the necessary actions to engage stakeholders with the project during the planning and design phase — before it goes into operation — in order to collect inputs that could influence the original design. The consultation also established the mechanisms for ongoing participation and feedback throughout the duration of the project, in accordance with Gold Standard requirements.

Prior to the consultation, Empower New Energy AS carried out an analysis and mapping of internal and external stakeholders that could be impacted by both the PoA and the VPA. A Non-Technical Summary (NTS) and all relevant project documentation were made available to participants before and during the event.

As a result of this participatory process, Empower New Energy AS will establish active communication channels according to the different types of stakeholders, and all comments, concerns and suggestions received — both during and after the meeting — will be evaluated and formally addressed.

2. Event Details

PoA	Empower Solar Programme of Activities in Nigeria
VPA	Juddy-Bolema Industries Rooftop Solar PV Plant
Date	18 August 2026
Time	13:00 – 15:00 (WAT)
Venue	Juddy-Bolema Ind. Ltd, 33 Umuoji St, Odoakpu, Nkpor, Anambra State, Nigeria
Number of Participants	82 participants (see Attendance List)
Empower Representatives	Michael Iwu (in person); Tatiana Cotta (remote)
Certification Standard	Gold Standard for the Global Goals

3. Project Description

The First VPA — Juddy-Bolema Industries Rooftop Solar PV Plant

The first VPA under the PoA is the Juddy-Bolema Industries Rooftop Solar PV Plant, located in Anambra State. Juddy-Bolema Industries Limited is a Nigerian manufacturing company specializing in the production and distribution of packaging and plastic products for commercial and industrial applications. Based in Onitsha, Anambra State, the company serves a wide range of customers with quality manufacturing solutions and a commitment to operational excellence.

The VPA consists of the installation and operation of rooftop solar PV on Juddy-Bolema Industries in 33 Umuoji St, Odoakpu, Nkpor, Anambra State, Nigeria. The system will be installed on the existing rooftop and will generate renewable electricity for on-site consumption by the host facility. No land acquisition or land-use change is required.

Key technical parameters of the VPA:

- Installed capacity: 1.5 MWp rooftop solar PV
- Annual output: approximately 2.1 GWh of renewable electricity per year
- Estimated annual emission reductions: approximately 1,262 tCO₂e per year
- Construction start: 31/01/2026
- Expected start of operations: 30/11/2026
- Project lifetime: 20 to 25 years

The Juddy-Bolema VPA sits within the following programme framework:

Context: Programme Framework

The Programme of Activities (PoA) — Empower Solar Programme of Activities in Nigeria

Empower New Energy AS is developing a VPA which is included in a Programme of Activities (PoA). The PoA focused is on the deployment of distributed solar photovoltaic (PV) at commercial and industrial (C&I) facilities across Nigeria. The PoA sets the overall eligibility criteria, monitoring approach, and safeguards, while each individual installation is registered as a Voluntary Project Activity (VPA). The PoA will have up to 15 MW of installed capacity distributed across different VPAs.

Each VPA will involve the installation and operation of a rooftop or ground-mounted solar PV plant, either grid-connected or off-grid, depending on the host facility and local network conditions. The PoA is designed to reduce electricity consumption from the national grid and on-site diesel generators by supplying clean, reliable renewable energy directly to commercial and industrial users.

The PoA will be registered under the Gold Standard for the Global Goals, with a start date of 30 November 2026 and a duration of 20 years. The creation of this PoA is a voluntary action by Empower New Energy AS.

Baseline Scenario

In the absence of this project, Juddy-Bolema Industries would continue to meet its electricity demand through a combination of electricity supplied by Nigeria's fossil-dominated national grid and on-site diesel generators, which are commonly used to compensate for frequent grid outages. Under the project scenario, a significant share of the facilities' electricity demand will be met by renewable solar energy generated on-site, directly displacing fossil-fuel-based electricity consumption.

Nigeria's national grid suffers frequent outages, forcing commercial facilities like Juddy-Bolema to rely heavily on diesel generators as backup. These are costly, highly polluting, and a major source of CO₂ and local air pollution. The grid emission factor in Nigeria is among the highest in the region, meaning that even the electricity available from the grid carries a large carbon footprint. This project directly addresses these challenges.

Carbon Credits and Gold Standard

The emission reductions generated by the VPA will be certified under the Gold Standard for the Global Goals — one of the most recognised and rigorous mechanisms globally for the certification of emission reductions with a positive impact on sustainable development. Each tonne of CO₂ equivalent avoided becomes one carbon credit, expected to reach approximately 1,262 credits per year starting November 2026.

Carbon credits are verified by independent third-party auditors and registered in Gold Standard's registry. The revenue from selling these certified carbon credits is what makes this solar project financially viable. Without carbon finance, a project of this type would likely not be possible in the current investment environment.

Ownership of the carbon credits belongs to Empower New Energy AS as the project proponent. Credits cannot be claimed by other agents participating in the VPA, in order to avoid double counting, and this is contractually reflected with all relevant parties.

4. Environmental, Social and Economic Impacts

The project generates a comprehensive set of environmental, social and economic benefits, assessed in line with Gold Standard Safeguarding Principles and Requirements. Site-specific risks identified at VPA level will be addressed in the VPA Design Document.

Economic Impacts

Impact Category	Description
Investment Catalyst	The VPA mobilises private capital for the deployment of distributed solar PV systems across Nigeria's commercial and industrial sector, supporting investment in clean energy infrastructure that would otherwise face financial barriers without carbon finance.

Impact Category	Description
Green Job Creation	Supports job creation during construction, installation, operation, and maintenance of the solar PV system.
Reduced Energy Costs	Reduces energy costs for Juddy-Bolema, improving business viability and operational resilience.
Energy Security	Distributed solar generation reduces reliance on Nigeria's fossil-dominated grid and diesel generators, increasing operational resilience for commercial and industrial users facing frequent power outages.
Technology Innovation	The VPA demonstrates a replicable and scalable business model for renewable energy deployment in the industrial and commercial sector, supporting broader market transformation.

Social Impacts

Impact	Description
Improved Public Health and Well-being	Reduced dependence on diesel generators lowers noise, air pollution, and occupational health risks for workers and the surrounding community.
Improved Occupational Health	Improved occupational health conditions at Juddy-Bolema facilities through the displacement of diesel generators.
Citizen Participation and Community Empowerment	The VPA includes structured stakeholder consultations and a continuous grievance mechanism, ensuring transparency, inclusiveness, and consideration of local stakeholder concerns throughout the project lifecycle.
Gender-Sensitive Approach	The project applies a gender-sensitive approach to stakeholder engagement and employment opportunities, ensuring equal access to participation and benefits.

Potential social risks and mitigation measures:

- Temporary noise and access disruption during installation works → Mitigated by the limited construction period and agreed site procedures.
- Occupational health and safety risks for construction workers → Mitigated by compliance with national H&S regulations and Empower contractor standards.

Environmental Impacts

Impact	Description
Climate Change Mitigation	The VPA reduces greenhouse gas emissions by displacing electricity from Nigeria's fossil-dominated grid and diesel generators with renewable solar PV electricity. The first VPA alone is expected to reduce approximately 1262 tCO ₂ e per year, with additional reductions as further VPAs are implemented.

Impact	Description
No Land-Use Change	The use of rooftop installations minimises land-use impacts and avoids pressure on natural or agricultural land. No land acquisition is required.
Improved Local Air Quality	No significant impacts on biodiversity, soil, or local air quality are anticipated.

Potential environmental risks and mitigation measures:

- Minor waste streams from equipment replacement and battery end-of-life → Managed in accordance with applicable regulations and supplier procedures, in line with IFC Performance Standards.

5. Contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The VPA is expected to contribute positively to sustainable development by supporting the deployment of renewable energy solutions in the commercial and industrial sector. The project directly contributes to the following SDGs:

SDG 4 – Quality Education

- Expected impact: Skill development and training for employees involved in the construction, operation, and maintenance of the solar systems.
- Monitoring approach: Total number of employees provided with skills development training.

SDG 7 – Affordable and Clean Energy

- Expected impact: Strengthening of resilient and sustainable energy infrastructure for industrial and commercial users through distributed solar PV systems.
- Monitoring approach: Number of installed solar PV capacity (MWp), and number of industrial facilities served.

SDG 13 – Climate Action

- Expected impact: Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions through the displacement of grid electricity and diesel-based generation with renewable solar power.
- Monitoring approach: Annual calculation of emission reductions (tCO₂e) using Gold Standard-approved methodologies, verified by an accredited Validation and Verification Body (VVB).

SDG 17 – Partnerships for the Goals

- Expected impact: Strengthening partnerships between Empower New Energy, local EPC contractors, industrial associations, and host facilities to scale clean energy deployment.
- Monitoring approach: Number of active partnerships and collaborative projects implemented under the VPA.

6. Grievance and Continuous Feedback Mechanism

Empower New Energy AS is committed to maintaining open, accessible, and responsive channels for all stakeholders throughout the entire project lifetime. During the consultation, the grievance and feedback mechanism was presented and discussed with participants, who were actively involved in deciding the most accessible format for the physical grievance channel.

Agreed Mechanism — Outcomes of the Consultation

Following open discussion with stakeholders, the following grievance and feedback mechanism was agreed upon:

- **Physical Grievance Logbook:** It was agreed that a physical grievance logbook will be kept at the Juddy-Bolema Industries facility (33 Umuoji St, Odoakpu, Nkpor, Anambra State), held with the receptionist so that it is easily accessible to workers and community members. Anyone can record their feedback, concerns or complaints in writing at any time. Entries will be checked regularly, acknowledged and formally addressed by Empower New Energy AS.
- **QR Code at project site:** A QR code displayed at the project site directs stakeholders to Empower's online feedback form, which can be completed using a mobile phone.
- **Email:** projects@empowernewenergy.com
- **Phone / WhatsApp:** +47 934 10 055 — available for calls and messages.
- **Physical Address:** 7th Floor, Mulliner Towers, 39 Alfred Rewane Road, Ikoyi, Lagos.

30-Day Stakeholder Feedback Round

The 30-day stakeholder feedback round was formally opened during the meeting on 18 August 2026 and runs until 21 September 2026. During this period, all project documentation — including this report and the Non-Technical Summary — will be published on Empower's website at <https://www.empowernewenergy.com> in the Public Consultations section. All comments received during this period will be formally recorded and addressed.

All feedback and grievances received will be formally recorded, acknowledged, and addressed by Empower New Energy AS in accordance with the project's continuous input and grievance mechanism, and responses will be communicated to stakeholders within a reasonable timeframe.

7. Meeting Agenda

13:00	Welcome & Introductions — Opening of the meeting
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13:10	About Empower New Energy — Introduction of Empower New Energy and Juddy-Bolema Industries
13:20	Purpose of This Consultation — VPA-level LSC for Juddy-Bolema Industries and PoA context
13:30	The Programme (PoA) — Empower Solar PV Programme of Activities in Nigeria: framework overview
13:40	The Project (VPA) – Juddy-Bolema Industries — Non-technical description: technology, location, timeline, key figures
13:45	Why this project matters — Nigeria's energy challenge
13:50	Carbon Credits & Gold Standard Certification — What are carbon credits, how they are calculated and certified
14:00	Impacts, SDGs & Safeguards — Sustainable development goals and how to monitor them
14:10	Impacts & Safeguards — Economic, Social and Environmental positive and negative impacts. Risks and mitigation measures
14:20	Grievance & Continuous Feedback Mechanism — Ongoing channels for input, complaints and feedback; 30-day feedback round
14:30	Next Steps & Contact Details — 30-day feedback period, how to submit comments
14:40	Completion of evaluation forms
14:50	Q&A – Open Discussion — Questions, comments and open dialogue with stakeholders — Close of meeting — Photographs

8. Questions and Answers Round

The Q&A session was held following the presentation. All questions and answers were recorded in full. The following questions were raised by participants:

Question 1: The presentation explained that the solar installation is rooftop-based. What measures are being put in place to mitigate the risk of fire outbreaks associated with rooftop solar installations?

Answer: Paul Nosakhare (Project Engineer, Empower) explained that fire risk is addressed as part of the project's due-diligence and health-and-safety processes. Measures include rigorous due diligence prior to implementation, a fire-safety assessment during design, installation of fire extinguishers and fire-safety equipment near relevant equipment, compliance with applicable IEC standards, appropriate clearance around the panels, proper installation of rails and components, monitoring and sensor technology, and automatic system shutdown when abnormal conditions are detected. He noted that fire risk cannot be entirely eliminated but can be appropriately managed and mitigated. Michael Iwu added that appropriate measures are being implemented to prevent and mitigate fire risk, noting that fire risks exist in conventional facilities even without solar installations.

Question 2: Will installing the solar panels on the zinc roofing cause damage or perforation that could result in roof leakage?

Answer: Michael Iwu explained that in some cases the existing roof may need to be replaced with a new roof capable of carrying the solar installation, and that the cost of any necessary structural work is included in the project's investment. He emphasised that Empower works with professional, qualified installers and has a strong interest in protecting the client's property given the long-term nature of the relationship. Adeesh Kurma (EPC Partner/Technical Representative, Paras Energy) added the technical detail: a roof leak test is performed before installation, existing leaks and defects are identified and rectified beforehand, walkways are installed to transfer loads to the purlins rather than the roofing sheets, aluminium rails are mounted to the purlins, a minimum 100 mm clearance is maintained between the PV modules and the roof, and a second leak test is conducted after installation with any damage repaired before handover.

Question 3: What is the cost of installing solar, and what is the lifespan and warranty of the solar panels?

Answer: Michael Iwu explained that the project represents an investment of approximately one million US dollars and more, with the capital being provided by Empower, so the client is not required to fund the entire system upfront in the conventional manner. He noted that Empower carries out due diligence on equipment and installers, that equipment quality is an important consideration, and that the lifespan of the solar PV panels is 25 to 30 years.

Question 4: How does the solar system actually reduce the amount of electricity consumed from the grid?

Answer: Adeesh Kurma (Paras Energy) used a simplified example: if a facility has a total load of 100 kW and installs a solar system producing 60 kW, solar supplies approximately 60 kW while the grid supplies the remaining 40 kW. The customer's total load remains 100 kW, but the electricity purchased from the grid falls from 100 kW to approximately 40 kW, reducing the electricity bill. The inverter manages the interaction between the solar system, the load and the grid.

Question 5: Does reducing generator load automatically mean a proportional reduction in diesel consumption, and how should diesel savings be calculated?

Answer: Paul explained that every generator has a manufacturer-provided datasheet indicating fuel consumption at different operating capacities, and that actual diesel savings should therefore be assessed using the manufacturer's technical data rather than assumptions.

Question 6: Would Empower finance the business/project, and how does the financial arrangement work?

Answer: Michael Iwu explained that the arrangement is not a conventional loan but is structured as an asset-financing/energy solution. Empower provides the solution, the arrangement begins generating value from the start, there is no conventional loan moratorium, and the structure is intended to provide the required energy solution without requiring the client to provide the entire capital cost upfront.

Question 7: What measures are in place to protect the solar installation from lightning?

Answer: Michael Iwu explained that a properly designed lightning arrestor should intercept lightning, provide a safe path for discharge, and transfer the electrical energy safely to ground. He emphasised that, given the scale of the investment, Empower intends to use high-quality lightning-protection equipment and proper engineering rather than low-quality arrestors.

Question 8: What regulatory requirements are necessary to proceed with a solar project of this nature?

Answer: Michael Iwu stated that projects above 1 MW require the appropriate licence and an Environmental Impact Assessment, that government policy is generally supportive of renewable-energy development, and he discussed net billing, under which excess electricity can potentially be exported and reflected as a reduction in the customer's electricity bill. A representative of the Manufacturers Association of Nigeria (MAN) noted that other manufacturers were interested in adopting similar projects and encouraged Empower and its partners to support replication. Michael Iwu responded that Empower is open to such opportunities and noted a minimum investment threshold of approximately one million US dollars.

Question 9: If the company expands after the solar project has been installed, what provisions exist to increase the solar capacity to meet increased electricity demand?

Answer: Michael Iwu explained that the system can be scaled as the customer's electricity requirements increase, citing Abyssinia Steel in Kenya, where an initial installation of approximately 2.5 MW subsequently increased to approximately 8 MW. He explained that Empower prefers to size the initial system appropriately rather than oversize it, as oversizing results in wasted capacity and unnecessary capital expenditure, and noted that Empower has more than 30 MW of investment capacity in Nigeria subject to identifying suitable projects.

Question 10: Once fully installed, will the company have 24-hour electricity supply, or will it still need alternative power sources?

Answer: Michael Iwu explained that the current project is a hybrid solution without battery storage and therefore works alongside other sources of electricity. If the customer requires 24-hour electricity, battery storage could be added, but batteries increase project costs and the economics must be assessed against the customer's load profile and alternatives such as diesel generation. The solution must remain commercially viable.

Question 11: Can neighbouring businesses or the surrounding community benefit from the electricity, particularly where there is excess energy?

Answer: Michael Iwu explained that the treatment of excess electricity depends on the project arrangement and applicable regulations, and could potentially include supplying or selling excess electricity to the grid or other approved uses. However, the current system is a hybrid system without battery storage, designed around the current client's requirements; if a requirement for 24-hour or community supply arises, the project can be reassessed and additional infrastructure such as battery storage considered.

Question 12: Could locally manufactured (Made-in-Nigeria) solar mounting structures be used?

Answer: Michael Iwu and the EPC partner expressed openness to using locally manufactured components provided they meet the required technical and quality standards. The discussion highlighted the promotion of Nigerian manufacturing, reduced dependence on imported components, supply-chain resilience, and potential collaboration with Nigerian manufacturers. Michael Iwu referred to previous supply-chain difficulties in obtaining mounting structures from China, and a pilot project was proposed to test locally manufactured structures.

Additional stakeholder comments:

A representative of the Manufacturers Association of Nigeria (MAN) expressed strong support for the project, describing it as significant because it demonstrates that solar energy can power manufacturing operations, and highlighted potential benefits including increased productivity, improved competitiveness, job creation, business survival and greater energy security.

Sam Owen, Managing Director of the manufacturing company, supported the technical explanation on roof clearance, noting that the clearance between panel and roof allows air to circulate and reduces heat build-up. He emphasised that industrial solar installations require more rigorous engineering than residential ones, that the selection of the installer and the quality of equipment are critical, and that due diligence has been undertaken to ensure the project is implemented by qualified professionals.

9. Summary of Stakeholder Evaluation Forms

At the close of the meeting, evaluation forms were distributed to and collected from participants. A total of 63 completed forms were returned. The table below summarises the key themes emerging from participant responses. No individual names are included in this summary.

Theme	Summary of Responses
Overall impression of the meeting	The large majority of respondents described the meeting as informative and educative. Frequently used terms included 'educative', 'interesting', 'impressive', 'informative', 'enlightening' and 'very nice'.
What participants liked about the project	The most frequently cited positives were cost savings and reduced electricity bills; reduction of CO ₂ emissions and air and noise pollution; job creation, particularly for young people; cleaner, renewable energy and reduced dependence on diesel generators; the attraction of investment and the generation of carbon credits; and the space-saving nature of the rooftop installation. Several respondents highlighted the relevance of solar energy to Nigeria's energy challenges.
Concerns or dislikes raised	The most common concern was the high cost of the project and its affordability for smaller businesses. Other concerns included fire risk, battery consumption and lifespan, performance in poor weather and after the panels' useful life, coverage of only certain sectors, and potential impacts on electricity-sector employment. A number of respondents indicated no concerns or left this field blank.
Gender breakdown	Of the 63 evaluation forms returned, approximately 42% were completed by female respondents and 58% by male respondents, reflecting a broadly balanced and gender-inclusive participation.

Overall, the evaluation forms reflect a highly positive reception of both the consultation process and the project itself. The concerns raised — primarily around cost and affordability — were already addressed during the Q&A session and are noted for consideration in ongoing stakeholder engagement.

10. Conclusion

The Local Stakeholder Consultation for the Juddy-Bolema Industries Plant was conducted successfully on 18 August 2026, with 82 participants representing a diverse range of local stakeholders including manufacturers and members of the Manufacturers Association of Nigeria (MAN), business owners and company managing directors, religious and community leaders, staff and workers, and other community members.

The meeting fulfilled all mandatory requirements for the Gold Standard for the Global Goals stakeholder consultation process. Participants were informed about the PoA framework, the VPA-level project, the carbon credit mechanism, the positive and potential negative impacts, the contribution to SDGs, and the next steps in the project timeline.

The stakeholder consultation produced the following key outcomes:

- General acceptance and positive reception of the project, with strong appreciation for its contribution to clean energy, reduced diesel dependence, local employment, and carbon emission reductions.
- Agreement on the grievance and feedback mechanism: a physical grievance logbook to be kept with the receptionist at the Juddy-Bolema Industries facility, complemented by a QR code at the project site, email, phone/WhatsApp, and Empower's physical office.
- Formal opening of the 30-day stakeholder feedback round (19 August – 21 September 2026).
- No significant objections to the project were raised. Questions focused on technical safety, roof integrity and cost, regulatory context, future expansion, and community access to energy.

The Juddy-Bolema Industries meets the technical, environmental, social, and climate criteria required for Gold Standard registration and will make a meaningful contribution to Nigeria's renewable energy transition.

11. Next Steps and Timeline

18 August 2026	Physical Local Stakeholder Consultation Meeting held at Juddy-Bolema Industries, Anambra State.
19 August – 21 September 2026	30-day stakeholder feedback round open. Comments can be submitted via email, phone/WhatsApp, or the physical grievance logbook at Juddy-Bolema. All project documentation published on Empower's website.
September – October 2026	Feedback consolidated; project documentation submitted for Gold Standard listing and Preliminary Review.
2026 – 2027	Validation by an independent Validation and Verification Body (VVB); Gold Standard registration; Construction starts.
30 November 2026	Expected start of commercial operations.

12. Contact Information and Communication Channels

For any inquiries related to the PoA or VPA, or for those unable to attend the public consultation, stakeholders may contact Empower New Energy AS through the following channels:

Contact Persons	Raja Dasgupta; Michael Iwu
Email	projects@empowernewenergy.com
Phone / WhatsApp	+47 934 10 055
Website	https://www.empowernewenergy.com (Public Consultations section)
Gold Standard	help@goldstandard.org (for questions about the certification process)
Physical Grievance Logbook	Available at Juddy-Bolema Ind. Ltd, 33 Umuoji St, Odoakpu, Nkpor 431108, Anambra, Nigeria

All feedback and grievances received will be formally recorded, acknowledged, and addressed by Empower New Energy AS. Responses will be communicated to stakeholders through the channel used for submission.

This consultation report and all related project documentation will remain available to stakeholders throughout the minimum 30-day stakeholder feedback round and beyond, published on Empower's website in the Public Consultations section.

ANNEX 1 — Non-Technical Summary

Empower Solar Programme of Activities in Nigeria Juddy-Bolema Industries rooftop solar PV plant (VPA)

The Non-Technical Summary distributed to stakeholders prior to and during the Local Stakeholder Consultation of 18 August 2026 is reproduced below in full.

Non-Technical Summary – Empower New Energy AS

Information made available to Stakeholders before the meeting.

Empower is implementing a Programme of Activities (PoA), which is a framework registered under the Gold Standard that allows multiple similar renewable energy projects to be developed and managed together over time under a single programme. The PoA sets the overall eligibility criteria, monitoring approach, and safeguards, while individual installations are registered as Voluntary Project Activities (VPAs). In this context, the rooftop solar PV system installed at Juddy-Bolema Industries constitutes one VPA within the broader ‘Empower Solar Programme of Activities in Nigeria’.

Public Consultation for the PoA: “Empower Solar Programme of Activities in Nigeria”.

Public Consultation for the VPA: “Juddy-Bolema Industries rooftop solar PV plant”

Event details:

- **Date:** 18 August 2026
- **Time:** 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
- **Venue:** Juddy-Bolema Ind. Ltd, 33 Umuoji St, Odoakpu, Nkpor 431108, Anambra, Nigeria

1. Relevant Information for the PoA - *Empower Solar Programme of Activities in Nigeria*

Empower’s Programme of Activities (PoA) focuses on the deployment of distributed solar photovoltaic (PV) systems at commercial and industrial (C&I) facilities across Nigeria. The PoA will have up to 15MW of installed capacity distributed in different VPAs.

Each Voluntary Project Activity (VPA) will involve the installation and operation of a rooftop or ground-mounted solar PV plant, either grid-connected or off-grid, depending on the host facility and local network conditions to provide clean and renewable energy.

The PoA is designed to reduce electricity consumption from the national grid and on-site diesel generators by supplying clean, reliable renewable energy directly to industrial users.

All VPAs implemented under the PoA will follow harmonized eligibility criteria, design parameters and monitoring procedures established at PoA level.

The PoA will be registered under the **Gold Standard for the Global Goals**, with a start date of 30/11/2026, and a duration of **20 years**. The goal is to generate **carbon credits**, measured in tons of CO₂ equivalent, to be traded on the voluntary carbon market.

Construction time: approx. 11 months

Operation begins: 30/11/2026

The creation of this PoA is a **voluntary action** by **Empower New Energy AS**.

2. **Synergies with Similar Initiatives**

This proposal supports technological innovation, installation of infrastructure in the rooftop or on the ground related to commercial and industrial clients. Building an innovation ecosystem to boost renewable energies development.

Target End Users

The project directly benefits the following groups:

- **Commercial and Industrial electricity consumers**

Empower will provide renewable energy, cutting emissions related to fossil fuels.

- **Local community**

Gains from local employment during construction, operation and maintenance. There will be strengthens partnerships between Empower, local EPC contractors and industrial associations.

3. Contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) & Safeguards Compliance

The project is designed to avoid harm to the environment and community. Stakeholder feedback will be used to confirm this assessment and identify any additional concerns that may need to be addressed.

Positive impacts:

Aligns with clean and renewable energy transition

Reduces fossil fuel use

Supports economic growth and green jobs

Contributes to SDGs:

4: Quality education

7: Affordable and clean energy

8: Decent work & economic growth

9: Industry, innovation & infrastructure

13: Climate action

17: Partnership for the goals

4. Planned Consultations for Project-Level Activities (VPA)

This PoA includes multiple **Voluntary Project Activities (VPA)**, each with its own public consultation. The first one will be held for facilities in Onitsha, Anambra State.

First VPA Consultation:

- PoA: "Empower Solar Programme of Activities in Nigeria".
- VPA: "Juddy-Bolema Industries rooftop solar PV plant"
- Date: 18 August, 2026, at 1:00 PM
- Location: Juddy-Bolema Ind. Ltd, 33 Umuoji St, Odoakpu, Nkpor 431108, Anambra, Nigeria

Relevant Information for the VPA

This VPA: *Juddy-Bolema Industries rooftop solar PV plant* is part of the Empower Solar Programme of Activities in Nigeria and represents the first implementation under the PoA.

The first VPA will be located in Onitsha, Anambra State.

Key VPA parameters (Summary):

- Start of the construction: 31/01/2026
- Expected start of operations: 30/11/2026
- Installed capacity: 1.50 MWp rooftop solar PV
- Output: ~2.1 GWh/year
- Benefits: 1,262 tCO₂e/year

Technical Description of the VPA

The Voluntary Project Activity consists of the installation and operation of a rooftop solar photovoltaic (PV) system at the facilities of Juddy-Bolema Industries in Onitsha, Anambra State, Nigeria. The system will be installed on existing industrial rooftops and will generate renewable electricity for on-site consumption by the host facility. The solar PV plant will operate and supply clean electricity directly to industrial operations, thereby reducing reliance on electricity sourced from the national grid and on-

site diesel generators. No land acquisition or land-use change is required for the implementation of this VPA.

Installed Capacity and Electricity Generation

The rooftop solar PV system will have an installed capacity of approximately 1.50 MWp. Based on site-specific solar resource assessments and system design parameters, the installation is expected to generate approximately 2.1 GWh of renewable electricity per year. This electricity generation will directly offset fossil-fuel-based electricity consumption, resulting in an estimated annual reduction of approximately 1,262 tonnes of CO₂ equivalent emissions.

Project Timeline and Operational Lifetime

Construction of the solar PV system is expected to start in 2026 and will take place over a limited timeframe of 10 months. Commercial operation is expected to begin shortly after construction is completed. The VPA is designed to operate over a long-term operational lifetime consistent with the technical lifespan of solar PV installations, which is expected to be approximately 20 to 25 years, depending on the technology used. The VPA will be implemented within the overall duration of the Empower Solar Programme of Activities in Nigeria, which has a planned duration of 20 years.

Baseline Scenario and Project Scenario

In the absence of the project, Juddy-Bolema Industries would continue to meet its electricity demand through a combination of electricity supplied by Nigeria's fossil-dominated national grid and on-site diesel generators, which are commonly used to compensate for grid unreliability. Under the project scenario, a significant share of the facility's electricity demand will be met by renewable solar energy generated on-site.

5. Summary of VPA's Economic, Social, and Environmental Impacts

As per safeguard analysis:

The VPA contains potential risks associated with the project may include temporary disturbance during installation works (noise, access constraints) and occupational health and safety risks during construction and maintenance. These risks will be mitigated through standard health and safety procedures, limited construction timeframes, and compliance with local regulations.

Economic Impacts

Impact Category	Description
Investment Catalyst	The VPA mobilises private capital for the deployment of distributed solar PV systems across Nigeria's commercial and industrial sector, supporting investment in clean energy infrastructure that would otherwise face financial barriers without carbon finance.
Green Job Creation	Supports job creation during construction, installation, operation and maintenance of the solar PV system.
Energy Security	Distributed solar generation reduces reliance on Nigeria's fossil-dominated grid and diesel generators, increasing operational resilience for commercial and industrial users facing frequent power outages.
Technology Innovation	The VPA demonstrates a replicable and scalable business model for renewable energy deployment in the industrial and commercial sector, supporting broader market transformation.

Social Impacts

Impact	Description
Improved public health and well-being	Reduced dependence on diesel generators lowers noise, air pollution, and occupational health risks for workers at industrial facilities.
Encouraging citizen participation and community empowerment	The VPA includes structured stakeholder consultations and continuous grievance mechanisms, ensuring transparency, inclusiveness, and consideration of local stakeholder concerns throughout the project lifecycle.

The project applies a gender-sensitive approach to stakeholder engagement and employment opportunities, ensuring equal access to participation and benefits.

Environmental Impacts

Impact	Description
Contribution to climate change mitigation	The PoA reduces greenhouse gas emissions by displacing electricity from Nigeria's fossil-dominated grid and diesel generators with renewable solar PV electricity. The first VPA alone is expected to reduce approximately 1,262 tCO₂e per year , with additional reductions as further VPAs are implemented.
Improved soil health and biodiversity	The use of rooftop and on-site installations minimises land-use impacts and avoids pressure on natural or agricultural land.

6. Contribution to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The VPA is expected to contribute positively to sustainable development by supporting the deployment of renewable energy solutions in the commercial and industrial sector.

The VPA is expected to contribute to the following SDGs:

- **SDG 4 – Quality Education**
 - **Expected impact:** The project provides skill development and technical training to employees involved in the installation, operation, and maintenance of the solar system, building local capacity in renewable energy technologies.
 - **Monitoring approach:** Training records maintained by Empower New Energy and local EPC contractors, reported annually.
- **SDG 7 – Affordable and clean energy**
 - **Expected impact:** Increased supply of clean, reliable renewable electricity to industrial facilities, reducing dependence on fossil fuels and diesel generators.
 - **Monitoring approach:** Measurement of electricity generated by solar PV systems (MWh), based on calibrated meters and recorded annually.
- **SDG 8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth**
 - **Expected impact:** Creation of employment opportunities during construction, installation, operation, and maintenance phases, with adherence to labour standards and health and safety requirements.
 - **Monitoring approach:** Number of jobs created, using contractor employment records.
- **SDG 9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure**
 - **Expected impact:** Strengthening of resilient and sustainable energy infrastructure for industrial and commercial users through distributed solar PV systems.

- **Monitoring approach:** Number of installed solar PV capacity (MWp), and number of industrial facilities served.
- **SDG 13 – Climate Action**
 - **Expected impact:** Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions through the displacement of grid electricity and diesel-based generation with renewable solar power.
 - **Monitoring approach:** Annual calculation of emission reductions (tCO₂e) using Gold Standard-approved methodologies, verified by an accredited Validation and Verification Body (VVB).
- **SDG 17 – Partnerships for the Goals**
 - **Expected impact:** Strengthening partnerships between Empower New Energy, local EPC contractors, industrial associations, and host facilities to scale clean energy deployment.
 - **Monitoring approach:** Number of active partnerships and collaborative projects implemented under the VPA.

7. Meeting Agenda

Agenda Items:

- Opening: Welcome and introduction of speakers
- Description of the participatory process and stakeholder engagement approach
- Non-technical description of the project: main figures and key characteristics
- Carbon credits: Explanation on what are carbon credits, how are they calculated, certification under Gold Standard, role and use of the carbon credits in the voluntary carbon market.
- Presentation of potential impacts and mitigation measures.
- Question and answer session
- Next steps and planned continuous feedback mechanisms
- Evaluation forms for the consultation process

8. Contact Information

For any inquiries related to the PoA or VPA, or for those unable to attend the public consultation, you can contact:

- Contact Person: Raja Dasgupta
- Email: projects@empowernewenergy.com
- Phone: +47 934 10 055

All feedback and grievances received will be formally recorded, acknowledged, and addressed by Empower New Energy AS in accordance with the project's continuous input and grievance mechanism, and responses will be communicated to stakeholders.

This Non-Technical Summary and related project information will remain available to stakeholders throughout the minimum 30-day stakeholder feedback round.